MINISTRY OF WELFARE

90. Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India Ltd.

Ministry of Science and Technology Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

91. Central Electronics Ltd.

News item captioned 'Pak rejects US sugestion to sign NPT'

794. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 19th February, 1987 captioned 'Pak rejects US suggestion to sign NPT' (non-Proliferation Treaty);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and its implications on the sub-continent;

(c) Whether it is a fact that Pakistan has offered to the United States its intention to sign a global, regional or bilateral treaty regarding non-proliferation in South Asia; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Ambassador in Pakistan reiterated his Government's suggestion in a speech in Islamabad on the 16th February, 1987. Pakistan's rejection could be viewed in the context of the non-peaceful dimension of its nuclear programme.

(c) and (d) Pakistan has offered to sign the NPT simultaneously with India. However, Government's stand on the NPT has nothing to do with its relations with Pakistan but is governed by the fact that Government regards the NPT as discriminatory.

Import of textile machines

795. SHRI GURUDAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow duty-free import of all types of textile machines;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether such machines are available indigenously; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for allowing their import duty free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Most of the textile machines are manufactured in India.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

News items captioned 'Mission staff in US bitter over low pay'

796. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 8th January, 1987 captioned 'Mission staff in US bitter over low pay'; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's re-action thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The local staff of Indian Missions in US is representing for higher wages and more benefits like medical insurance cover. Their demands are being examined and decisions will be taken in the light of financial implications, cost of living increase and existing norms relating to emoluments and service conditions of local employees in Indian Missions abroad.

Complaints against Swatantrata Senani Sadan, New Delhi

797. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from freedom fighters living in Swatantrata Senani Sadan, New Delhi against the maladministration of the Sadan; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to improve the condition of freedom fighters living in the Sadan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaints on receipt were referred to Delhi Administration for enquiry, who have reported that all inmates of the Home, except one, were quite satisfied about the medical, food and transport arrangements. Delhi Administration have also reported that the present staff strength is sufficient to look after residens of Freedom Fighters Home.

Foreign contribution to institutions

798. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the institutions namely (i) Ashoka Foundation, New Delhi (ii) Action for Food Programme, New Delhi (iii) Action India, New Delhi and (iv) AVARD, New Delhi have been receiving foreign contributions under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 during the period 1984 and 1985;

(b) if so, what are the amounts received by these institutions, yearwise; and

(c) what are tha names of the countries from where the funds have originated and the names of the organisations which have contributed to the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Ashoka Foundation, New Delhi, has reported the receipt of foreign contribution under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 during the period 1984 and 1985. Action India, New Delhi and AVARD, New Delhi have reported the receipt of foreign contribution for the year 1984 only. Action for Food Programme, New Delhi has not reported receipt of funds during the above period.

(b) and (c) Information is given in the enclosed statement.